



**THE NIPPON FOUNDATION CENTRAL ASIA FELLOWSHIP**  
**MASTER'S PROGRAM IN PUBLIC HEALTH**  
**UNIVERSITY OF TSUKUBA**  
**APPLICATION GUIDELINE 2026**

## University of Tsukuba

### Academic Environment

Established in October 1973, the University of Tsukuba has inherited the history and tradition from its predecessor (Tokyo University of Education), which was founded in 1872. As the first comprehensive university in Japan to be established under a nation-wide university reform plan, the University of Tsukuba emphasizes openness in higher education. It offers students a new system of education and research through its "New University" administration.

In addition to its leading position in university reform, the University of Tsukuba plays a major role as the primary academic facility in Tsukuba Science City, which is home to many of the nation's top research institutions. We strive to maintain an exceptional level of education and research, to foster our university's unique character, and to create an internationally competitive academic institution.

The University of Tsukuba offers undergraduate degrees as well as master's, doctoral, and professional degree programs at the graduate level.

## Master's Program in Public Health (MPH)

### Program Background

To work as a health-care specialist for the WHO or other United Nations institutions, a person must have a master's degree in public health. The Master's Program in Public Health (MPH) prepares students for careers in public-health research and education, public-health policy and management, and safety control. Courses offered include epidemiology, biostatistics, health policy and management, environmental health, mental health, and social and behavioral sciences. With wide-ranging faculty, a distinctive feature of the University of Tsukuba's public health program is that students study with public health experts, as well as experts in basic and clinical medicine and thus develop a comprehensive view.

Visit our program site for more details:  
Master's Program in Public Health  
<https://www.md.tsukuba.ac.jp/mp/en>

### Enrollment Date

April 1, 2026.

## **Nippon Foundation Central Asia-Japan Human Resource Development Project Fellowship Program**

### **Collaboration with Nippon Foundation Central Asia-Japan Human Resource Development Project**

Sponsored by the Nippon Foundation, the University of Tsukuba launched the “Nippon Foundation Central Asia-Japan Human Resource Development Project” (NipCA) in January 2019. It aims to foster human resources who can contribute to the achievement of “Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)” in the Central Asian region.

The NipCA project awards fellowships to outstanding applicants who are admitted to the Master's Program in Public Health (MPH) within the Degree Programs in Comprehensive Human Sciences, as well as the Master's Programs in International Public Policy (IPP), within the Degree Programs in Humanities and Social Sciences, Graduate School of Business Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Tsukuba.

The project offers special courses for understanding the main ideas of the SDGs and their implementations in Japan and the Central Asian region within the IPP program.

### **Aims of the Fellowship Program**

This fellowship program is intended to support students from the Eurasian region (Central Asia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia). The main goals of the program are:

1. To foster human resources to promote exchange between Eurasia and Japan and play an important role in the stabilization and prosperity of the regions in an academic and practical way, overcoming cultural and historical differences between the regions;
2. To reinforce the networks between Eurasia and Japan through the goals mentioned above

### **Eligibility**

1. Nationality: Applicants must be from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, or Georgia (7 countries).
2. Language Qualifications (proofs will only be requested during the second stage of the application process). Applicants must demonstrate their English language proficiency by

submitting scores in English Language Proficiency Tests (TOEFL IBT 80, TOEFL CBT 230, TOEFL PBT 500, IELTS 6.0). The scores provided above are approximate, i.e. each applicant's ability will be checked and considered on a case-by-case basis.

3. Any applicant who falls under the following conditions is ineligible. If identified after the commencement of the fellowship period, the applicant will be required to withdraw from the fellowship.
  - a. The applicant is already a recipient of a scholarship from an organization other than the Nippon Foundation.
  - b. The applicant is considered a “future graduate” and selected as such, is unable to graduate within the present date or unable to fulfill graduation requirements.

### **Enrollment Quota**

Those applicants who demonstrate outstanding abilities will be awarded fellowships by the Nippon Foundation (up to 2 fellowships per year).

### **NipCA Fellowship Application Fees**

Qualified fellowship candidates will be awarded an exemption from the entrance examination fee to apply the MPH program at the University of Tsukuba. Note that this award will not guarantee admission to the MPH program at the University of Tsukuba. The final decision of the fellowship award will be determined by the results of the entrance exam. Fellowship candidates will be determined by the Nippon Foundation Central Asia-Japan Human Resource Development (NipCA) Project office.

### **Fellowship**

Applicants demonstrating outstanding abilities at the exams for fellowship and admission to the MPH program will be awarded the following fellowships on a competitive basis. In addition to exemption of examination fees, fellows will be awarded admission fee, four semesters of tuition, and a stipend amount of 113,350 yen/month. (This amount is subject to change.)

### **Travel Expenses**

Each NipCA fellow will be provided with an airplane ticket from the international airport nearest to his/her home address in his/her home country to Narita or Haneda international Airport.

The return flight portion is subject to successful completion of the program and return to his/her home country within the designated time period.


## Other Benefit

NipCA fellows will be covered by Personal accident insurance and Comprehensive insurance for international students. Other benefits may include access to the SDGs library, alumni network, and participation in program events, including special field trips.

## Application for the NipCA Fellowship

### ◆ First Stage: Apply for the NipCA Fellowship

The submission of the preliminary application for the NipCA fellowship is the first stage of the application process. Download the application form from the link below and send it by email. The subject line should be **"Application for the NipCA Fellow MPH 2026"**. E-mail: [info@genis.jinsha.tsukuba.ac.jp](mailto:info@genis.jinsha.tsukuba.ac.jp)

- NipCA Fellowship Application Form: <https://x.gd/UVcNv> 
- Applicants Personal Information
- Motivation letter (no more than 1000 words) that includes the followings points:
  - Your research interest and how it is related to the SDGs.
  - Reasons for applying to the MPH program and the NipCA fellowship at the University of Tsukuba
  - Future career vision

Successful fellowship candidates will be notified of further instructions, including exemption award for examination fees.

**Application period for the fellowship (first stage) is May 19 – July 15, 2025.** Application documents received outside of the application period will be disqualified.

### ◆ Second Stage: Apply to the MPH Program

Each applicant should prepare the MPH application document following the instruction of the University of Tsukuba's Medical School. Please find details at this site:

<https://www.md.tsukuba.ac.jp/gradmed/en/exam/>

Examination schedule and application forms for the MPH program are in the ***"Special selections of international applicants and Japanese national living abroad"*** (toward the bottom of the URL page)

Under the second category, **"April 2026 enrollment"**, you will find the section titled ***"Master's Program in Medical Sciences, Public Health Program and Dual Master's Degree Program"***. Please find details such as the schedule and application form there.

## Notice of Selection

Fellowship candidates will be selected based on a comprehensive assessment of their preliminary

application documents. Those who are selected for the second stage will be informed individually. However, due to the high volume of applications, the Selection Committee cannot acknowledge the receipt of applications or notify those who are not selected for the fellowship program.

## Conditions

Those admitted to the MPH program and awarded NipCA fellowships are required to participate in events organized for the fellows and submit reports about these events. Information about the fellows such as their names, short biographies, as well as their activities with their photos, may be published and distributed widely as part of the promotional activities of the program. Event photos and videos organized for the fellows may also be made public. In addition, NipCA Fellows are required to take several courses related to SDGs which are offered in the Master's Programs in International Public Policy (IPP). Furthermore, NipCA fellows must return to his/her own home country upon graduation from the degree program. Thus, those who apply for the fellowship need to be aware that **their application to the fellowship program is considered to be their consent to the above conditions.**

## Student accommodation

Successful applicants will be given an opportunity to reside in the university residence halls. The monthly rent is approximately 15,380-44,000 yen.

## Faculty Members in the MPH program

For information about our faculty members, please check the program's website:

<https://www.md.tsukuba.ac.jp/mph/en/research/>

## Contact Information

### Master's Program in Public Health (Academic Program)

Academic Service Office for the Medical Sciences Area, University of Tsukuba

1-1-1 Tennodai, Tsukuba, JAPAN 305-8575

E-mail: [iga-in@un.tsukuba.ac.jp](mailto:iga-in@un.tsukuba.ac.jp)

URL: <https://www.md.tsukuba.ac.jp/mph/en/>

### NipCA Project Office (Fellowship Program)

Collaborative Research Building A203,

University of Tsukuba

1-1-1 Tennodai, Tsukuba, JAPAN 305-8577

+81 (0)29-853-4251

E-mail: [info@genis.jinsha.tsukuba.ac.jp](mailto:info@genis.jinsha.tsukuba.ac.jp)

URL: <https://centralasia.jinsha.tsukuba.ac.jp/en>